THE MOUNT

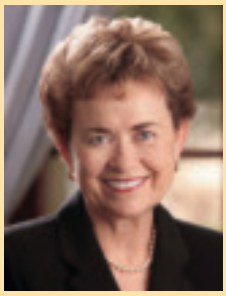
Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles ⚜ *Summer/Fall 2008*

A New Vision for Los Angeles

Campaign Exceeds Goal ⚜ 30 Rockefellers ⚜ China Connections

from the president

Dear Reader,



On April 17, I took my assigned seat along with 600 other academic leaders, consisting of college presidents and Catholic school superintendents, to hear an address by Pope Benedict XVI in Washington, D.C.

We applauded the Pope as he proceeded down a red carpet—matching his red shoes—to a staging area where he took his seat on a chair designed by three architecture students of the Catholic University of America. On the unusually warm Washington day, throngs of students sunbathing on the campus lawns had just welcomed the Pope as the Popemobile arrived on campus.

In his short visit to the United States, I am sure Pope Benedict had hundreds of groups he could have chosen to address, but he singled out the United Nations and Catholic educators as his priority. Obviously, he sees these two groups as having enormous potential for good.

In his exquisitely crafted 30-minute talk, the pontiff invited us to live the ideal of a faith-filled academic community. He called us to reflect on our commitment to the Catholic identity of our institutions. We know, of course, that the collective identity of any one body, such as a college, is only as strong as the witness of each of its members: students, faculty, staff, trustees, regents, and alumnae.

These specific highlights from the pontiff's address will guide our continuing conversations going forward. The Pope:

- called us to assist our students to experience the harmony among faith, life, and culture.
- urged us to continue to offer students of all social and economic strata the opportunity for a Catholic higher education—a value the Mount has long cherished.
- acknowledged that God's desire to make himself known and the innate desire of all human beings to know the truth provide the context for human inquiry into the meaning of life.
- asked if faith was tangible in our universities and whether it was given expression liturgically, sacramentally, through prayer, acts of charity, a concern for justice, and respect for God's creation.
- stated that Catholic identity is not dependent upon statistics (numbers of Catholics). Neither, he said, can it be equated with simply the orthodoxy of course content. Rather, it inspires every aspect of our learning communities.
- urged us not to reduce the precious and delicate area of education in sexuality to management of "risk," bereft of any reference to the beauty of conjugal love.
- reaffirmed the great value of academic freedom as a call to search for the truth wherever careful analysis leads us. He also cautioned against an appeal to academic freedom to justify positions that contradict the faith.
- expressed profound gratitude for our dedication and generosity in serving our country and our Church.

It was an honor to represent the Mount on this historic and memorable occasion.

With warm regards,

Jacqueline Powers Doud
President

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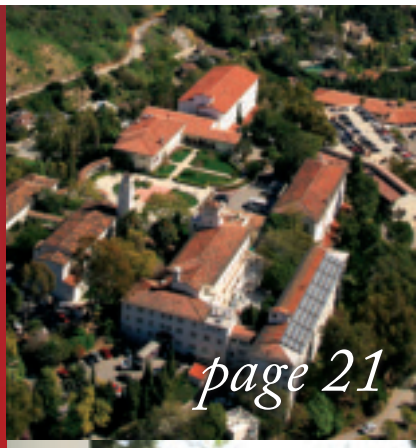

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in the moment

Students from the Na Pua O Ka 'Aina Club entertain the Mount community at a Chalon Campus Luau.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mount St. Mary's College offers a dynamic learning experience in the liberal arts and sciences to a diverse student body. As a Catholic college primarily for women, we are dedicated to providing a superior education enhanced by an emphasis on building leadership skills and fostering a spirit to serve others. Our measure of success is graduates who are committed to using their knowledge and skills to better themselves, their environments, and the world.

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Two Mount Students Win Rockefeller Fellowships

Two future teachers now studying at Mount St. Mary's College have been awarded the prestigious Rockefeller Brothers Fund 2008 Fellowships for Aspiring Teachers of Color.

Juniors Karina Contreras and Lourdes Perez were awarded fellowships this spring, bringing the College's number of Rockefeller scholars to 30 since the program began in 1992. MSMC counts more fellowship recipients than any other institution nationwide. The Rockefeller fellowships aim to increase the number of highly-qualified teachers of color in K-12 public education.

Karina Contreras (left) and Lourdes Perez (right)

Contreras, a liberal studies major, hopes to teach at Betty Plasencia Elementary School where she went to school. "I want to be that change in children's lives," said Contreras. "I want to make children feel like—no matter who they are or where they come from—they are capable of doing great work."

Perez, a child development major, says her kindergarten teacher first sparked her desire to be an educator. "I remember as a child mimicking her and even pretending to drink from a coffee cup like her," she said. "I don't consider teaching a job—I have always dreamed of being a child's hero."

The Rockefeller scholars will develop education-related summer projects and present them in Washington, D.C. They also will receive up to $22,100 in financial assistance to attend graduate school. Fellowship winners commit to teaching in public schools for three years.

For 2008, there were 25 winners from 15 colleges and universities, including the Mount, Brown, Duke, Emory, Pomona, Swarthmore, Wellesley, and Yale.

Academic Honor Society Inducts Doheny Students

The chartering ceremony for the Beta Pi Mu chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the two-year college academic honor society, was held in March on the Doheny Campus. Assistant Provost Karol Dean and Kurt Meyer, chapter representative from Irvine Valley College, celebrated the academic achievement of 12 students who were welcomed into the society before a proud audience of family and friends.

"These students have consistently performed at a high academic level while in our program," said Dean. "The College will long remember their names as the women who were the very first to receive this honor and bring national recognition of their accomplishments to campus."

from the faculty

Omar Beas, adjunct professor of language and culture, has signed a contract with VMD Verlag Dr. Müller-La Hague to publish his dissertation "Studies on Agreement and Dislocation: A Case Study in Spanish."

Katherine Brueck, professor of English, delivered two lectures on the 20th century French philosopher and mystic, Simone Weil, at the World Meditation Society in San Marino, Calif. She also attended the Rustbelt Roethke Professional Writer's Retreat in July at Saginaw State University in Michigan.

Madeleine Bruning '76, associate professor of nursing, presented her abstract, "Enhancing Cultural Competence Education in a Pediatric Core Clerkship—Preliminary Results of a Qualitative Analysis of Students Reflective Responses to Disparities in Access to Health Care," at the annual meeting of the Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics in April.

Tori Canillas-Dufau '98, associate professor of nursing, was selected to participate in the Minority Nurse Educator Grant program offered by the School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, N.J. She completed CDE 501 "Theory and Culture in Distance Education," the first in a series of four courses designed to enhance online teaching.

from the faculty

Alan Lee, assistant professor of physical therapy, was awarded the American Physical Therapy Association's 2008 Minority Faculty Development Scholarship Award. This annual scholarship is given to a physical therapist who is a full-time faculty member teaching in an accredited physical therapy education program and pursuing post-professional doctoral course work. Lee is pursuing his PhD in physical therapy from Nova Southeastern University.

Montserrat Reguant, chair and associate professor of language and culture, gave several presentations in March: "Teaching Languages with a Performance Goal in Mind" for LAUSD language teachers' World Languages and Cultures Conference; "Faster Language Learning with Digitized Sound" at the Lilly Grant 2008 Conference – Alliance of International Teachers Scholars, which included the results of an interdisciplinary project with **Jennifer Chotiner**, assistant professor of biology; and "Enhancing and Expanding Language Department with Wimba" with **Nancy Ballesteros**, instructor of language and culture, at Wimba Connect 2008, the first international conference for Wimba, a suite of online communications tools.

Mount Celebrates Commencement 2008

The Mount celebrated the achievements of more than 500 graduates at Commencement 2008 on May 12 at the Gibson Amphitheatre in Universal City, Calif. The ceremony included the College's associate, bachelor's, master's, doctorate, and certificate programs.

Speaker Anita L. DeFrantz, an Olympic medalist, community activist, and the first woman in the history of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to serve as its vice president, encouraged graduates to be a positive presence in the world.

"Is it really possible that those of you in this commencement ceremony today will be change agents for a better future for all of us?" she asked graduates. "The answer is a resounding 'Yes.' You can change the world to be a better place, so long as you accept the responsibility to do that. For us, it is a part of being Americans. It is a part of believing in this American dream. And at the center of this dream is the responsibility to do good for others."

DeFrantz was awarded an honorary degree for her inspirational leadership, especially with young women and people of color; for serving as a role model for students and showing that one person can make a difference; and for her dedicated service to encouraging international peace and cooperation.

The College also recognized Bishop Sylvester Ryan with the Carondelet Medal, MSMC's highest honor. He received the medal for his generous service as chaplain and faculty member at the College; his selfless dedication to the Church and the community; his ability to lead with great energy, enthusiasm, and wisdom; and for his commitment to lifelong learning.

Ryan was appointed a bishop in 1990 by Pope John Paul II and served as Bishop of Monterey (California) from 1992 until his retirement in 2006. He was a faculty member in religious studies and served as chaplain at the Mount in the late 1970s.

College Names New Regents

The College welcomed five new members to the Regents Council in April: Carrie Ann Skirlick Blackaller '65, Margaret Darmody '58, Julio M. Torres, and Robert and Kerry Zoechling.

Eileen Murphy Bigelow '65 has also been named co-chair of the council and will join current co-chair Jeff Whitman in leading this dedicated group of volunteers to enhance the College's visibility and fund-raising initiatives. Bigelow has been an active regent and generous supporter of Mount St. Mary's College for many years. The College also extends its appreciation to Bigelow's predecessor Rosemary Moothart '70, who served as co-chair for more than four years.

Two Trustees Join Board

The Mount's Board of Trustees named two new members this spring: Judith McDonald and Joseph Kearns.

McDonald is a founding board member and a member of the advisory committee of *Young & Healthy*, a nonprofit organization that provides free health care to uninsured children in the greater Pasadena area. She is also a board member of the Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women and Children in Los Angeles and an active member of her local parish, Holy Family Church in South Pasadena, Calif. McDonald attended California State University, Los Angeles.

Since 1998, Kearns has served as president of Kearns & Associates LLC in Malibu, Calif. Previously, he served as vice president and chief financial officer/chief investment officer of the J. Paul Getty Trust. Kearns is currently a director of the Morgan Stanley Institutional Funds in New York City, where he serves as chairman of the audit committee. He received his bachelor's in mathematics from California State University, Sacramento, and went on to earn a master's in statistics from Stanford University.

Mount Welcomes Vice President for Institutional Advancement

In May, the Mount welcomed Paul Craft '03 as vice president for institutional advancement. Craft most recently served as chief information officer of external affairs at the University of California, Los Angeles.

In his new role, Craft oversees the College's fundraising activities, alumnae relations, and public relations. He holds a bachelor's degree from the Mount in business administration and anticipates completing his master's in counseling psychology at the College in 2008. Craft is a recipient of the Mount's Distinguished Achievement Award for Academic Excellence and was named an Outstanding Weekend College Graduate in Business Administration. In 2003, Craft was the Weekend College's commencement speaker.

"As an alumnus, I am honored to join the leadership at the Mount and

have a part in the future direction of my alma mater," Craft said. "We have a dynamic and successful Institutional Advancement team, and I am excited about the prospect of working together to further our goals and support the College's strategic plan."

"I am delighted that Paul has taken on this important leadership role at the College," said MSMC President Jacqueline Powers Doud. "His love for the Mount is a great asset, and he brings exceptional skills in strategic planning, communications, and business development to the Mount."

from the faculty

Elizabeth Sturgeon, assistant professor of English, presented three papers at conferences this past semester. In February, she spoke about "Student Blogs as Chronicle Histories" at the Southwest Texas American Popular Culture Association. In March, she presented two works: "The Performance of History in *The Mirror for Magistrates* (1559)" at the Shakespeare Association of America and "Imagining Justice and Injustice in *The Mirror for Magistrates* (1559)" at the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities.

Laurie Wright-Garry, assistant professor of religious studies, was part of a February panel discussion entitled "Judaism, Islam, and Catholicism: Women In Their New Roles" at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles. Proceeds from the event, which was organized by Brandeis University alums, went toward a sponsored research fellowship in neuroscience and biomedical science.

Alumnae Invited to Homecoming 2008

All graduates are invited to come back to the Mount on Saturday, October 11, to celebrate Homecoming 2008. It is the perfect opportunity for alumnae to reminiscence about good times and learn new things, to rekindle old friendships and make new ones.

Activities throughout the special day will include:

- Workshops (see right for details)
- Founders Day Mass celebrated by Father George O'Brien
- Reunions for the classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003, with a special commemoration for the members of the 25th Silver Anniversary Class of 1983
- Celebration in the Circle with wine, hors d'oeuvres, and music
- Reunion Class photos
- Gathering of the Golden Grads for all classes from 1958 and earlier
- Gala Homecoming Dinner for all alums, followed by presentation of the 2008 Outstanding Alumna and Rising Star Awards
- A Mocha and Memories coffee bar for those who wish to linger and reminisce after dinner

For information about Homecoming 2008, please call 213.477.2767 or go to www.msmcalums.la.edu/Homecoming2008.

Homecoming Workshops

Steps to Health & Fitness
Presented by Lindsay Connors, fitness coordinator, MSMC—This interactive workshop will offer exercise and nutrition advice to help you live a healthier lifestyle. Learn ways to eat healthy on the go, how to stay fit without an expensive gym membership, and what are some smart foods for your body. Wear comfortable clothes.

Learning and Memory: From Newborn Neurons to Alzheimer's Disease
Presented by Jennifer K. Chotiner, assistant professor, MSMC Biological Sciences Department—Need help remembering little things like where you put your keys? Hear from an expert how learning and memory works at all ages, from children to the elderly. Drawing on the latest research, Dr. Chotiner will provide insights and tips on how to keep your memory sharp.

Fun with Florals, the Magic of Flowers
Presented by Leah Horrigan, owner of Flowers by Leah—Create a beautiful fall flower arrangement to take home with you using seasonal roses, alstroemeria, lilies, dahlias, and stocks in warm autumnal colors. This hands-on workshop will teach you how professional florists use color, proportion, and balance to create beauty.

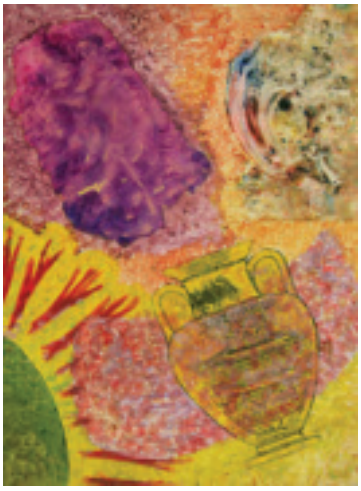
Analysis of the 2008 Presidential Election Season
Presented by Helen Boutrous, chair of the History and Political Science Department—The 2008 presidential election is making history for a number of reasons, including its record-breaking primary turnouts. Come analyze the events of the election season, review strategies and predictions for the November general election, and discuss what this historic election will mean for the future of our country.

Belly Dancing for Fun and Relaxation
Presented by Christine Doll, belly dancer and fire spinner—Come learn the American style of group belly dancing, which has its roots in the exotic dances of Egypt and the Middle East. All it takes is a little grace, a little aerobics, and a little techno music. Authentic costuming will also be discussed.

The Should-a, Would-a, Could-a of Money: If Only I Knew Then What I Know Now!
Presented by Gayne A. Pinto '87, district leader, Primerica Financial Services—Take it from someone who has been there: It is never too late to fix your finances. Find out the basic principles of how money works, the dollar cost average, and the power of compound interest. You will also get tips for buying a home and planning for retirement.

in brief

Lobbying for Better Care
A dozen Doctor of Physical Therapy faculty and students from the Mount spent several days in March and April lobbying state and federal legislators to bring about reforms that aim to improve patient care. During two separate trips—one to Sacramento and the other to Washington, D.C.—Mount physical therapy students met with lawmakers and learned firsthand the role lobbying can play in changing the status quo.



MSMC Art in Capitol
Three Mount seniors displayed original artwork in April in the state's Capitol as part of the third annual Student Art Show hosted by the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. Participating students, all art majors, included Yoseline Yajaira Ortiz, Alma Nunez, and Holly Driscoll. MSMC was among 19 colleges and universities showing artwork. Shown: "Childhood," acrylic on canvas, by Ortiz.

Students Protest Violence Against Women
To help give voice to women affected by violence, Mount St. Mary's students spent several days in March designing T-shirts with empowering, anti-violence messages. The T-shirts were then displayed on clotheslines at both Chalon and Doheny—and showcased in the local media—as part of the national Clothesline Project.

Student Wins Best Attorney
Mount St. Mary's sophomore Cassandra Krieger garnered a Best Attorney Award during a recent American Mock Trial Association contest that attracted hundreds of aspiring lawyers from the western United States to compete for top honors. Krieger, an English major, was one of 16 Mount students opposing peers from colleges and universities including USC, UCLA, and Arizona State. Krieger, who is also on the staff of the College newspaper, says she is considering a career in law as a prosecutor and possibly as a judge.

New Literary Journal
Students and their faculty advisor Marcos Villatoro unveiled the Mount's literary journal, *Audemus*, at a reception in April. The journal, formerly known as *Mount Voices*, contains the work of Mount students and faculty as well as writers from across the country. "We hope to ignite a renewed interest in literature on campus," said junior Illeana Portillo, the editor in chief. "*Audemus* means 'we dare' in Latin—and it was the spirit we felt."

Celebrating Mother Earth
On April 22, the Mount community celebrated Earth Day at the Chalon Campus Circle. Biology students quizzed passers-by on issues such as global warming, deforestation, and recycling; Campus Ministry passed out tips on "How to Green Your Dorm Room;" local vendors brought samples of environmentally friendly wares such as recycled plastic pens and clip boards; and Bon Appetit unveiled biodegradable to-go containers. (See Fun Facts for more.)

President Doud Honored
Mount President Jacqueline Powers Doud was awarded the Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion during the institution's commencement ceremony in May. In a letter to President Doud, Rabbi David Ellenson, president of Hebrew Union, noted that he presented the degree because "the initiatives Dr. Doud has made in higher education and the life she has led in the world of academia are exemplary."

Distinguished Ethicist at Mount
The Mount welcomed world-renowned ethicist Michael Boylan for two talks this spring as part of the College's ongoing Larkin Ethics Lecture organized by Philosophy Department Chair Wanda Teays. Boylan, chair of philosophy at Marymount University in Virginia, is a novelist, poet, and writer of numerous collections on ethics. His topics were: narrative as philosophy and international public health policy and ethics.

Did You Know?

The statue in the alcove next to the Colonnade along the Chalon Campus Circle is St. Therese of the Child Jesus, a Carmelite nun from Lisieux, France, also know as St. Therese, the Little Flower. It was donated to the College in memory of Rosalind Stewart, Class of 1963, by her mother Mary Therese Stewart.

On Capitol Hill
For more than two decades, the Mount has been sending students with an interest in public policy issues to Washington, D.C., to meet women in national roles as part of the Public Leadership Education Network. During the 2007-08 academic year, the College sent 17 students—more MSMC women than ever before—to the nation's capital to participate in two enrichment seminars. First, last fall, was the Women, Law, & Public Policy seminar; second, in January, was the Women, & Science/Technology Policy seminar.

FUN FACTS

Low Carbon Diet Initiative

The Mount's catering service, Bon Appetit, recently became part of the Low Carbon Diet Initiative, which aims to reduce the company's greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent. Here are a few important goals:

10
percent reduction in purchases of beef—achieved by April 2008

20
percent reduction in energy and water usage—by April 2010

25
percent reduction of food waste—by April 2010

50
percent reduction in purchases of tropical fruits from foreign countries—by April 2009

100
percent of fresh vegetables and non-tropical fruits purchased from North America—achieved by April 2008

Students Host Benefit Show
A group of Mount students at the Chalon Campus held a benefit show in April—"Always Love. Never Forget."—to call for an end to violence in the nation's schools and communities. More than $1,600 was raised for Students Against Violence Everywhere, a national nonprofit founded in 1989 by high school students after a classmate was killed trying to break up a fight.

Expanding Your Horizons
More than 200 middle school girls came to the Mount to attend the 29th annual Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics Career Conference in March. Students participated in hands-on workshops that had them isolating DNA and making colors with chemistry. The conference is organized by Math/Science Interchange, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting math and science education for girls. Mount Provost Eleanor Siebert is a board member.

Alums Join Study on Women's Colleges
Graduates of women's colleges are significantly more likely than women who graduated from other liberal arts colleges or from flagship public institutions to have graduate degrees, according to recent data released by the Women's College Coalition. The data were part of a longitudinal survey of graduates of women's colleges, other liberal arts colleges, and public universities—and included interviews with MSMC alumnae. On a variety of factors, the survey found that women's college alumnae rated their institutions more highly than did the women who attended coeducational institutions.

Invited to Serve
Nancy Valdivia '06 of the Weekend College was one of 50 volunteers who came out for the Mount's second annual Invitation to Serve day in March. Valdivia helped fill food baskets for the needy at the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. Other students, faculty, staff, alumnae, and friends of the College spent the day partnering with several other local organizations to make a difference in the community.

South American Adventure
Senior Claudia Martinez traveled to South America this summer free of charge thanks to the Sigma Delta Pi National Honor Society. Martinez, a double major in Spanish studies and psychology, won a scholarship to spend a month studying Spanish in Cuzco, Perú. This is the fourth year that a Mount student has won the award, which covers tuition, room, and travel expenses.

Inside

China

As it prepares to open its doors for the summer Olympic Games, China grapples with serious challenges and far-reaching opportunities.

By Joanna Banks

Through the years, dedicated traveler Nancy McCook '01 has logged thousands of miles across Europe. But she never seriously considered a trip to Asia.

Then in 2006, when she was enrolled as a master's in humanities student, McCook took a class on the Silk Road, a series of ancient trade routes that linked parts of Asia to the Mediterranean Sea. Within weeks of the class ending—just by chance—the Weekend College hosted a trip to China, and McCook eagerly joined in.

Most enticing for McCook, 68, was the idea of visiting a country that for many years of her life was closed off to foreign tourists. "When somebody says you can't see what's behind that door, well, you want to look there," she says. "The entire mystique of Asia has always seemed so other worldly to us here in the Western culture."

Katherine Whitman '63, a Mount associate professor of business, regularly lectures on the growing Chinese economy.

It is this mysterious, almost exotic quality that now regularly draws American tourists, including a steady stream of Mount students and faculty. This summer's Olympic Games in Beijing are only heightening interest, drawing unprecedented world attention to this ancient civilization.

Change and Challenges

For all its blossoming economic might, China is still a developing country with vast pockets of poverty in both its isolated rural communities and its fast-growing, high-population cities. Politically, tight controls on the press and uprisings in the western portion of China, as well as in Tibet, have led groups such as Amnesty International to launch serious human rights inquiries.

In addition, China's ruling Communist Party continues to grapple with air quality, among other environmental concerns, as well as a dysfunctional educational system that deprives many rural children of schooling and at the other extreme produces more college graduates than its workforce can accommodate.

The economic and cultural landscape in China has been rapidly evolving in recent years—especially the last two decades—and signs of a capitalistic society now abound. A bicycle-dominated culture is shifting to cars, with Audis and Buicks becoming must-haves for the newly wealth-conscious Chinese. Homeownership too has stepped up in the last 15 years in a land where the norm has been multiple families sharing bathrooms and cooking spaces in densely-populated buildings.

But as the world watches Beijing's orchestration of the 2008 Olympic Games, the people of China also seem to be relishing the opportunity to showcase some recent advances.

"There is a message that China is not shutting itself off from the rest of the world anymore," says Fan Hao, a Chinese scholar who visited the College earlier this year through the Bridging Cultures: U.S./China Program of the Mount's Education Department. Hao, a professor

of English and drama at Nanjing University, says a pre-Olympics building blitz in Beijing shows that China is taking steps to enter the 21st century. "The Chinese have the mentality that they want to show the world their strength and vitality," she says.

Measures of Progress

Hao adds that she sees significant differences between her parents' generation and that of her peers, who are in their 30s. "My parents did go to college, but after graduating they were assigned to jobs. They had no choice about where they would work," she says. "In my generation, we work where we want."

That is not to say everything is better, she allows. "I also feel that China has a long way to go," Hao says. "Now there is a large gap between the rich and the poor. Many

China, At a Glance

- With more than 1.3 billion people and counting, China is the world's most populous country. In fact, one in five people on the entire planet is a resident of China.
- In 1987, China was 20 percent urban and 80 percent rural. Today, it is 45 percent urban, having experienced the largest migration of people in history—250 million—from countryside to major cities as they seek greater economic opportunity.
- Shanghai, which once suffered from decades of neglect, has rebounded since the 1990s to become the fashion and style leader of China. The city is now vying to be the financial center of Asia.

(Left photo) Katherine Whitman, associate professor of business (far right), leads students on a Weekend College trip to China and Tibet in 2005. (Bottom photo) Study-travel student Dalia Aguilar '06 takes in the sights and sounds.

people living in the countryside are still very poor. A lot of parents cannot afford the cost of sending their children to elementary school, and education is the modern way to re-class people."

Changes in China have also been noted by Mount faculty and students who regularly participate in study abroad programs there. In her more than 50 visits over the last few decades, China expert Katherine Whitman '63, a Mount associate professor of business, has noticed that few inland cities are developing at the same pace as larger urban centers near the eastern coast. "You could say that some people in urban China live to first-world standards, but the vast majority of people still live in third-world conditions."

Since the 1980s, Whitman says, China's population has also become less rural and more urban. "But there are still at least 700 million people living in the countryside, and many of these people have experienced little change and remain poor," she says. "While the Chinese as a whole are significantly better off than they were in the 1980s, the gap between urban and rural incomes is widening."

Meanwhile, the ruling party in China has been attempting to manage expectations about the calls for economic, political, and environmental change that have taken center stage with the approach of the Olympic Games, trying to focus instead on the motto "One World One Dream."

Olympic fervor is pervasive, at least in Beijing, Whitman notes, where a clock in the infamous Tiananmen Square has been counting down how many nano-seconds remain until this month's opening ceremony. The average citizen in the city also seems to view this summer's events with nationalistic pride. "They are extraordinarily proud as a developing country of what they have accomplished," she says.

Mount's New MBA

The Mount's Master of Business Administration Program launching this fall will immerse students in international markets as a complement to their coursework—and as part of their regular tuition. In 2009, for example, MBA students will examine global competition in a nine-day guided exploration of China.

With a rapidly evolving economy and growing geopolitical influence, China holds many of the world's most dynamic regions, notes Janet Robinson, program director. And that makes a visit to China a natural fit for Mount MBA students.

"It's not enough to keep doing business as usual. Outstanding 21st century organizations recognize the demands of global competition and embrace emerging global opportunities," she says. "Immersion in other cultures and economies such as China gives breadth to MSMC's graduate business program."

Leading the first two MBA student cohorts to China will be Peter Antoniou, an adjunct faculty member, and Associate Professor Katherine Whitman '63, both of whom are recognized experts on Chinese business and global business development.

Peace and Justice

Olympic official Anita DeFrantz, the Mount's commencement speaker this May, also views the Beijing Olympic Games through the lens of an optimist. She believes in the ideals of peace and unity, based both on her experiences as a

The Olympic Games

The Beijing Olympic Village is designed to house 10,500 athletes, including more women than have ever competed in the Olympic Games previously.

New events for women include the 3,000-meter steeplechase cross-country run in track and field, the BMX individual event in cycling, two new fencing events, and the 10K marathon in swimming.

All told, male and female athletes in Beijing are competing in 28 sports spanning 302 events.

Estimates show that infrastructure and building improvements in advance of the games cost as much as $67 billion—more than four times the record amount spent by Athens for the 2004 Olympic Games.

1976 Olympic medalist in rowing and on her many years as an organizer of the games.

"I believed as an athlete, and I still believe that promise of peace in the world," says DeFrantz, the senior International Olympic Committee (IOC) official in the United States. She says living in the athletes' Olympic Village in the 1970s was a defining experience for her. "We know there are far too many athletes for the number of medals available, yet we live together and share meals together. It's a place where there is mutual respect."

In agreeing to host the games, Chinese officials signed on in support of IOC principles addressing such areas as open access for the media and the concept of embracing basic human rights for all. And China has "a billion people who can be a part of our mission and supporters of the Olympic Games," DeFrantz says.

Some change has come already, she adds. Last summer, for instance, the Beijing Olympic Organizing Committee said it was taking corrective measures against a factory making Olympic merchandise that was using child labor. The committee reportedly terminated the factory's right to manufacture Olympic merchandise and revoked its licensing agreement. Also, DeFrantz cited a recent freeing of travel for foreign journalists in China to report on the Olympic Games.

"I am an optimist, and I believe in people—and I think sometimes people need a reason to change," she says. "This is a culture that is so old and has managed in this last century to pretty much remain closed off. Hosting the Olympic Games means that China will now be open to the world."

Eye-Opening Reality

Even with new athletic arenas, improved transportation hubs, and cleanup campaigns to prepare for the Olympic Games, there remains a gritty quality to Chinese cities.

Marlena Giardino '06 was a 22-year-old business management major when she took a Mount-sponsored travel-study trip to China. Seeing urban life in China impacted her the most. "It's so over populated. The houses were stacked up next to each other with a series of rooms where a lot of people live," she says. "The poverty is a lot more in the open there than what you would see in the United States."

At the same time, Giardino also remembers fondly exploring Shanghai business districts, purchasing pearls from local merchants, and taking a boat tour of Hong Kong Harbor that culminated with a nighttime light show of the buildings along the shore.

McCook describes her China trip as magical but says she tried not to give friends and family an overly-rosy perspective when they asked about her trip. She recalls the beauty of China's desert basins when the early morning sunlight turned gently rolling sand dunes into a mellow reddish-amber hue. Just as vivid are memories of deformed adults and children struggling to sustain themselves on city streets.

"When you first arrive you are not sure if you are going to be feeling oppressed because of the communist regime," McCook says, "but I did not feel that. The Chinese people live within the structures they have just as we all do." ⚜

Recommended Reading

Want to read more about China? Check out the following books recommended by Mount Associate Professor Katherine Whitman:

China Fragile Superpower by Susan L. Shirk
The Writing on the Wall by Will Hutton
China Shakes the World by James Kynge

A New Vision for

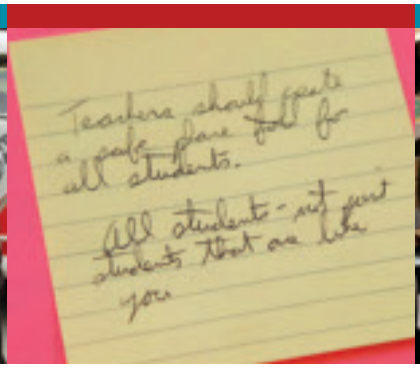
Los Angeles

Educators and students gather to share ideas on teaching social justice—and on helping to create a better future for Los Angeles.

By Sarah Scopio

"If you are an educator, social justice has to be part of your concern," says Mount graduate education student Meg Samaniego. "Particularly as a Catholic educator, it's part of who you are."

To explore this critical mandate, Julie Feldman-Abe, associate professor of education, gathered Mount students and faculty with community activists from across Los Angeles to share techniques for teaching social justice in the classroom. The conference, aptly named Critical Teaching in Action, was held this spring at the Doheny Campus.



"Educators interested in social justice often feel isolated," says Feldman-Abe, who also directs the College's Center for Cultural Fluency. "I wanted to bring them together with our future teachers to share ideas, build community, and energize each other."

The conference is an outgrowth of the work of the Center for Cultural Fluency. Housed in the Doheny Campus library, the center provides free teaching materials and resources for Mount faculty and local K–12 educators so they can add multicultural perspectives to their curriculum.

Living History

The day began with the story of a little-known fight for justice in LA's backyard. Seven years before the Supreme Court case of Brown vs. Board of Education caught the nation's attention in 1954, school segregation was being fought in Orange County, Calif.

"I didn't understand why they wouldn't let my brothers and me in the nice school," says Sylvia Mendez, whose parents sued the city of Westminster, Calif., in 1945 to end the practice of sending Hispanic children to their own schools, separated from white children. In 1947, the court ruled in favor of the Mendez family, and California became the first state to end school segregation. Mendez vs. Westminster was later used as legal precedence for Brown vs. Board of Education.

Mendez was joined at the Mount's Critical Teaching in Action conference by Sandra Robbie, the writer/producer of an Emmy-award winning documentary, "Mendez vs. Westminster—For All The Children, *Para Todos Los Ninos,*" which chronicles the family's story.

"Before Sandra and Sylvia came to the Mount, I had never heard of the Mendez vs. Westminster case," says liberal studies major Isabel Gomez. "It was really eye opening. I was also impressed that Sandra Robbie took the initiative to go out and get this story told. Her passion is inspiring."

That's just the sort of reaction organizer Feldman-Abe hopes the conference will elicit. "Education is about action," she says. "Sandra and Sylvia are role models for our students because they decided to make this important history known. I always encourage my students to go beyond the textbook when planning lessons and think about what's *not* being included. To hear a living example of something that's been left out makes that point so powerfully."

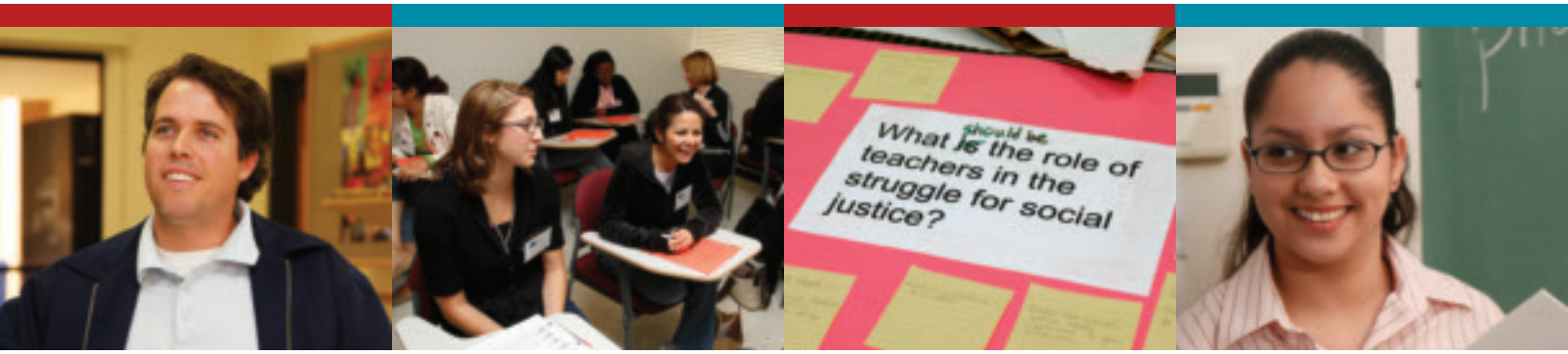
"The conference was the highlight of my credentialing program because everything came full circle. It reminded me of why I wanted to become a teacher in the first place—because I want to make a difference and to believe that change is possible in the classroom." —Alma Flores, student

Advocating for Change

Conference participants could choose among a variety of action-oriented workshops that explored the practical aspects of social justice education—such as "Defining Your Own Social Justice Mission Statement"—and showcased engaging curriculum—like "La Vida Lowrider: An Oral History Project"—that can be used in the classroom.

"Social change requires imagination," says presenter Shiftra Teitlebaum from the nonprofit group youTHink who taught a hands-on workshop called "Integrating the Arts in the Critical Classroom." "You have to imagine a different way of life, a different world. Part of art making is that it forces you to problem solve and use your imagination."

To experience personally the transformative power of



art, attendees literally took scissors and glue in hand to create "social commentary" collages from magazines and construction paper. As the finished projects were displayed on the wall, striking images of natural beauty overlaid with cars and family members separated by consumer goods spoke volumes about the artists' critical intentions.

"I tend to shy away from making art because I don't think I am good at it," says junior Alicia Sterr, a liberal arts major. "But I learned that art is a powerful way for students to express themselves. I was challenged not to let my own feelings keep me from encouraging students to use art to explore important issues."

Storytelling is the method of choice for another nonprofit presenter, Facing History and Ourselves. The organization seeks to inspire youth through stories like that of Ernest Guevarra, a doctor in the Philippines whose childhood experiences with poverty propelled him to fight for the rights of the disadvantaged. Guevarra's story is one of many first-person narratives told on Facing History's "Be the Change" website which was unveiled at the workshop "Teachers and Students as Upstanders."

Graduate education student Mary Alice Cackler says she appreciates finding another online resource to incorporate into her curriculum. "I teach high school English," she says, "and I am always looking for ways to integrate technology into the classroom. This website is a great resource for teachers because it not only globalizes social justice, but it shows how individuals can make a difference. It was very inspiring."

Combining art and story in one, two Mount film and social justice majors presented their work in the "Film and Educating Social Justice Advocates" session. Junior Ericka Solis's film, *The Water's Edge*, tackled the problem of ocean pollution. "You can know all the information about an issue, but it is hard to present it to others in an interesting way," she told the group of educators. "Film allows me to be creative and hopefully get others involved in my cause."

Even the act of creating a film can be a learning experience, notes Pam Haldeman '86, professor of sociology and director of the Mount's film and social justice program. "Making a film allows students to come together as a group to advance an issue for social change," she says. "It can be as short as two or three minutes, but the process deeply engages students."

Spaces to Reflect

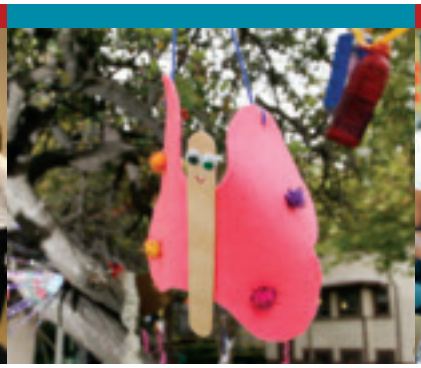
To ensure that the act of participating in the Critical Teaching in Action conference was an engaging process in and of itself, organizer Feldman-Abe incorporated two additional elements to the schedule that are rather unusual for a day-long educational event—a viewing garden and an idea café.

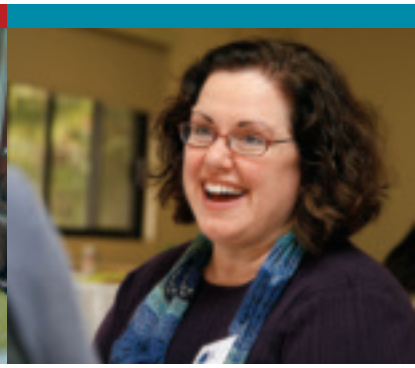
Students in Mount instructor Jen Vanderpool's Fundamentals of Art course care about the environment. They wanted to find a way to make others care, too. "I have been teaching students that contemporary artists often design public artwork to raise awareness about an issue," says

A Moment of Recognition

For the past several years, the Mount's Center for Cultural Fluency has presented a Cultural Fluency award to an individual or organization that exemplifies cross-cultural leadership in Los Angeles. This year's recipient is Facing History and Ourselves, a nonprofit organization known for its work educating teachers and students on civic responsibility, tolerance, and social action.

"Facing History helps students realize that their choices and actions matter and empowers them to become positive agents of change," says Julie Feldman-Abe, director of the Center for Cultural Fluency. Facing History and Ourselves was presented with the award at the Critical Teaching in Action conference.





Vanderpool, who saw the conference as a great outlet for her class. "They really care about the world and wanted to make something that would get people talking."

So students gathered and decided to make a number of small art pieces that together would create a virtual garden of recycled materials. On the morning of the conference, their bottle-cap flowers and box-top butterflies were arranged outside the main auditorium to share a message about environmental justice.

"We created the garden to remind people to care for our city," says Cynthia Vasquez, a freshman business major who helped with the project. "We made flowers out of water bottles, newspaper, magazines, and soda cans. We also made butterflies, because we wanted people to know that trash affects animals and insects too."

To help them share their own visions for change, conference attendees were invited during lunch to participate in The World Café. People gathered around large tables, each set up with pointed questions on a variety of issues designed to inspire group discussion. Everyone was then challenged to come up with their own answers before sharing their ideas with their peers.

Questions like, "What is the role of teachers in the struggle for social justice?" were met with honest replies, including one from a participant who wrote, "Teachers should create a safe place for all students… *all students*, not just students that are like you." Interestingly, some of the most challenging questions were met with the shortest answers. To the question, "How do we conduct ourselves when people are resistant to change?" one respondent wrote, "Humbly."

"The World Café is based on the idea that we can resolve anything through simple, meaningful conversation," says Feldman-Abe. "We decided to incorporate it because we've found that people often return from conferences wishing they had more opportunities to talk to one another about what they were learning."

Adds graduate education student Alma Flores, "The café was a great idea because I felt part of a community of educators. I also learned some classroom strategies that are really practical, like using students' parents as a resource."

Sophomore Roxanne Sanchez also loved the exchange. "It was an opportunity for us students to get networking experience and become aware of different issues," she says. "The Mount is really good about raising our awareness for social justice concerns."

Inspired to Action

Indeed, the Critical Teaching in Action conference was a source of inspiration for many that will hopefully carry forward in participants' ongoing work as educators and activists.

"The conference was the highlight of my credentialing program because everything came full circle," says Flores. "It reminded me of why I wanted to become a teacher in the first place—because I want to make a difference and to believe that change is possible in the classroom."

"I'm thrilled with the results," says Feldman-Abe. "Students were really moved by the examples of social justice work they saw and several said they plan to stay in contact with the educators they met. Our College places such an emphasis on social justice that it was the right place to bring these people together." ⚜

Cultural Resources

Need more information?

- To learn more about the Mount's Center for Cultural Fluency, go to www.culturalfluency.org.
- To read about Mendez vs. Westminster, go to www.mvwmagicalhistorytour.com.
- For Facing History and Ourselves' teacher resources, go to www.facinghistory.org and click on "Be the Change."

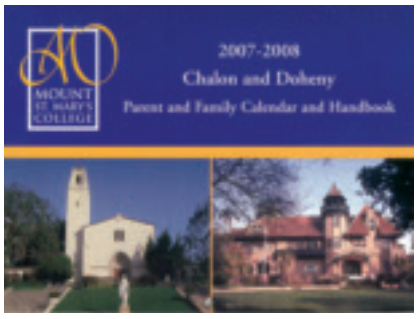
The Mount's Doheny Campus (top) near downtown LA opened in 1962 on what was once the Doheny Family estate. Academic programs on the downtown campus include graduate degree programs, the associate in arts program, the education credential program, and the Weekend College for working adults. The Chalon Campus (bottom) is perched high in the Brentwood hills and is home to the College's traditional baccalaureate program, which was founded in 1925. ⚜

A Grandfather Gives Back for Parent Program

As a Mount regent, a trustee emeritus, and the proud grandfather of Marlena Giardino '06, Roger Hughes is more than familiar with the Mount; he is a fan. He is such a strong supporter, in fact, that he wants to encourage others to invest in educating the next generation of Mount graduates. So Hughes pledged $50,000 to start a Parent Program at the College.

The program, which began last fall, is focused on building a closer relationship between the Mount and parents of first-year students at both the Doheny and Chalon campuses. Some of the funds were used to create a picture calendar given to parents at orientation to help them track key campus events throughout the year. The program also hosted a winter phonathon to generate more ongoing financial support for the College.

"I'm a big believer in education, specifically Catholic education," said Hughes. "It's important that we who are in a position to help, do."



Invest in the Mount Campaign Exceeds Goal, Ends Early

INVEST IN THE MOUNT
Diverse Distinct Dynamic
The Campaign For Mount St. Mary's College

Mount St. Mary's College President Jacqueline Powers Doud announced that the *Invest in the Mount* campaign, which started in January 2005, has ended six months ahead of schedule. With an original goal of $45 million by December 31, 2008, the College closed the campaign on June 31, 2008, having raised more than $53 million.

"I am extraordinarily pleased and proud because this campaign has greatly exceeded our expectations," said Doud. "Our heart-felt thanks go to the many individuals, foundations, and corporations who generously participated in the campaign. Without the support of our trustees, regents, friends, alumnae, students, faculty, and staff, we would not have been able to so successfully complete this ambitious fund-raising effort—the largest in the College's history."

With the support of the Mount's many donors, the College has been able to invest in myriad academic programs, augment scholarship support for its growing student body, and revitalize and expand student-centered facilities on both campuses.

"Another point of pride is the fact that the capital projects funded by the campaign have already been completed," said Doud. "Our unprecedented fund-raising success has enabled us to move swiftly with renovation and construction projects on both our campuses."

To date, the following projects have been completed:

- classroom upgrades in buildings on both campuses
- the creation of new science labs on both campuses
- a complete renovation of student spaces at Chalon, including a new student lounge, student activities offices, bookstore, and dining facilities
- upgrades to student housing at the Chalon Campus
- the creation of a film studio and editing lab on the Chalon Campus
- the construction of a new student dorm and parking facility on the Doheny Campus
- renovation of the theater at Chalon and the auditorium at Doheny

"This has been a busy yet exciting time at the Mount," said Doud. "We are most grateful to everyone who made this transformation on both campuses possible and enabled us to surpass our campaign goal—a remarkable milestone in the Mount's 83-year history."

For more information on the Invest in the Mount *campaign, watch for the 2007-08 President's Report and Honor Roll of Donors in the mail this fall.*

Doheny Parking Facility, Adams Art Walk Dedicated

Donors and friends as well as faculty, staff, and administrators gathered on June 26 to mark the dedication of the new Ken Skinner Parking Pavilion on the Doheny Campus. Also celebrated was the Adams Art Walk, a landscaped path between the pavilion and the Fritz B. Burns Health Education Building that features sculptures and landscaping for people to enjoy on their way to and from campus.

The Ken Skinner Parking Pavilion was funded by several foundations.

Top left: Representing the Fritz B. Burns Foundation are (left to right) Board of Directors President Joe Rawlinson, Joyce Skinner, Mount President Jacqueline Powers Doud, and Vice President Rex Rawlinson.

Top right: President Jacqueline Powers Doud (left) poses with Rob Smith (right), president of the Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation.

Bottom left: President Jacqueline Powers Doud (left) with Michael A. Enright, chair of the Mount's Board of Trustees (center), and Sr. Kathleen Kelly, trustee of the Bill Hannon Foundation (right).

The pavilion was also funded by the Fletcher Jones Foundation.

Bottom right: The Adams Art Walk was a gift from Mount Trustee David Adams (left), pictured here with President Jacqueline Powers Doud (right).

Athenian Club Raises Record Amount

On May 2, the Class of 2008 gathered at the Senior Farewell Dinner to share one more evening together before commencement. Held in the Pompeian Room at the Doheny Mansion, the event celebrated the culmination of their student life at the Mount.

The dinner featured several speakers, starting with an official welcome into the Mount Alumnae Association by Alumnae Board President Susette Aguiar-Possnack '99. Selected by students to give the keynote address, Helen Boutrous, chair of the history and political science department, then spoke to the seniors, encouraging them to stay active in the Mount community network.

Senior Senator Frances Kuhn and the Athenian Committee announced that the Class of 2008 raised more than $12,219 toward the Mount Fund's Athenian Club, setting a new record. Last year, the Class of 2007 raised $9,000. Seniors were inspired to give, in part, by anonymous donors who pledged to match donations one-to-one if the class gift reached $10,000. After the total was announced, committee members Giselle Garcia, Katherine Garcia, and Jennifer Sanchez revealed that the anonymous donors were President Jacqueline Powers Doud and her husband, Dr. Robert Doud.

The money raised will augment the Chalon Campus library collections and help future Mount students with tuition assistance, academic research, and other special projects.

"I have many amazing memories of the Mount," said Garcia. "This is why I pledged—to give another young woman the opportunity to create memories of her own."

welcome

Surveys show that the first things alums look for in their college magazines are the class notes. Everyone wants to know what's going on with former classmates—who married, had a baby, earned an advanced degree, or changed jobs. They want to know about travels, hobbies, and the many ways alums are volunteering and giving back.

You may have milestones in your own life that your classmates would love to know about or may be in contact with a Mount friend who has news to share. We'd love to know! Contact Jeanne Ruiz, director of alumnae relations, at jruiz@msmc.la.edu or 213.477.2769, or you can send notes to Alumnae Relations, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007.

The Golden Grads of 1958 celebrate at the Baccalaureate Mass, May 2008.

class notes

'43

Phyllis Kirby Jones is still teaching natural family planning to Catholic couples after 32 years. She and her husband celebrated 58 years of marriage in July 2008 and have 28 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

'51

Gerry Biggs McGrath is keeping busy with the music ministry at St. John Baptist de La Salle Church—her 54th year.

Barbara Terpening McGourty and her husband attended a grandson's college graduation and visited Niagara Falls and Mount Rushmore, which she says are scenic wonders that exceed their reputations.

'57

Theresa Binckley Byrne works daily at the local Trader Joe's and Brother Benno thrift shop and can still find time to play a game of tennis.

'60

Judy Scherb Skraba and her husband celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary with a week on Maui, where they honeymooned.

'62

Celeste Hendrick Farnsworth, **Joan Kendall Tornay**, **Maryann Dobbs**, and **Mitzi Muth Logan** recently got together to share a meal and stories.

'63

Doris Russell-Kerry retired after 35 wonderful years of teaching. She and her husband are traveling extensively and enjoy spending time with their family.

'67

Eileen Brick Gibbs requests prayers for her son who is fighting acute myeloid leukemia at City of Hope Hospital in Duarte, Calif.

'69

Jeanne Black Burnham has lived in Florida for 15 years and works with the aged and disabled for the Florida State Department of Children and Families. She directs the Holy Cross Church choir and this year earned her black belt in karate.

'71

Beatrice "Betty" Alop O'Rourke's daughter is attending nursing school, preparing to devote her life to helping low-income families.

'74

Johnetta Smith and her sisters traveled to the Caribbean, visiting Haiti, Jamaica, and Grand Cayman, and also stopped in Cozumel, Mexico.

'75

Kathleen Haley, a retired Methodist minister, received her doctorate in ministry from Saint Paul School of Theology in January 2008. She keeps busy giving retreats and workshops.

Ilana Miller is proud to announce the publication of two books: a biography, *The Four Graces: Queen Victoria's Hessian Granddaughters*, this spring; and a novel, *The Royal Mob*, later this year.

'79

April Hazard Vallerand received the 2008 Advancing the Science of Nursing Award from the Pain & Symptom Management Research Section of the Midwest Nursing Society. She also received a Davey Award from the International Academy of the Visual Arts for interactive multimedia education for the video, "Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment of Breakthrough Pain: Breaking the Pain Cycle."

'82

Benjamin Peirce has been promoted to AVP of Clinical Practice at Gentiva Health Services.

'90

Michelle Camarillo Baeza is currently teaching at Citrus College in Glendora, Calif.

'92

Elizabeth King Matto, a political scientist, runs the Youth Political Participation Program at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University. She lives with her husband and two children in New Jersey.

Members of the Class of 1972 stock up on spirit wear at Homecoming 2007.

Reunion Alert—October 11, 2008

Who: Reunions this year are for the Classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003—with special attention to the Silver Anniversary Class of 1983, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary!

When: Reunion will be celebrated at Homecoming 2008 on Saturday, October 11, at the Chalon Campus.

Volunteer Opportunity: Join your Class Reunion Committee and encourage your classmates to attend. To help make your reunion a smashing success, contact Jeanne Redell Ruiz '63, director of alumnae relations, at 213.477.2769 or jruiz@msmc.la.edu.

'93

Lettrice Cathey-Lawrence sings with the Founder's Cathedral choir directed by renowned conductor Albert McNeil of the Jubilee Singers. In May, she performed with the choir at the 10th Annual International Choral Festival.

'97

Tirza Castellanos chose two alums to be godmothers to her new baby, Sophia. They are **Angelica Aguilar '96** and **Nhatgiao Vu '97**.

'05

Nicole Rollins Myjak, granddaughter of **LaVerne Carlton Rollins '39**, has been very busy since graduation. She has had two foot operations, gotten married, visited **Alina Estonactoc '07** in Oahu, begun a master's degree in chemistry at Washington State University, and started a new job.

alum community

two by two

The Alumnae Association extends best wishes to the following alum and her spouse:

'05 Nicole Rollins to Mitchell John Myjak

by-lines

The Alumnae Association extends congratulations to the following alums and their spouses on the birth of their children:

'97 Sophia Penelope Smith to Tirza Castellanos

'01 Matthew Grant to Kimberly Fine Magruder

requiescant

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:

'49 Mary Ann Lu Yu

'50 Eleanor Sydow

'58 the husband of Paula Walsh Marsden

'59 Dorothy Schaefer Steege

'65 the mother of Barbara Hong Yamasaki

'66 Michele Pendergast Ley

'67 Sr. Maria Angela Mesa, CSJ

'68 the mother of Helen Hawekotte and Angela Hawekotte '75, and the aunt of Joan Cashion '79

'69 the mother of Kathleen Davison

'75 the father of Ilana Miller

'77 the mother of Pamela Kennedy Oborski

'81 the mother of Sr. Anne Davis, CSJ

'83 the mother of Jeanine Ducin-Porter

'85 the father-in-law of Mary Pat Kennedy Carothers

'88 Lola Boyd Gemme

'94 Robyn DeChellis Nill

'01 the mother and the uncle of Jacqueline Woods

'05 the grandmother and grandfather of Agasia Lanier

They will be remembered in the Masses, prayers, and good works of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Mount community.

advanced degrees

The Alumnae Association congratulates the following alums for their successful pursuit of intellectual achievement:

'75 Kathleen Haley, DMin, Saint Paul School of Theology, January 2008

'01 Nely T. Go, Certificate in Pastoral Ministry, Loyola Marymount University, June 2006

NOTE: We are proud of all of our alums and are happy to showcase your academic achievements. Please let us know when you receive an advanced degree and include the date and the name of the institution granting the degree. In order to keep this feature current, please do not go back any further than four years or send information that has already appeared in Class Notes.

Reunion Alert

This year, Homecoming 2008 on October 11 will celebrate the Classes of '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98, and '03.

Stay on the Cutting Edge

Login to Mount AlumLine to:

- find out the latest on alum activities
- RSVP to alum events
- update your personal information
- chat online
- make a gift to MSMC

To login, go to www.msmcalums.la.edu; you will need your Alum ID#. You can find it directly above your name on the address panel of this magazine.

Email Update

Make sure we have your current email address, so we can stay in touch.

Alumnae Legacy Grant

Alum offspring are entitled to a $1,000 grant, renewable every year upon enrolling at MSMC. It's an alumnae perk. To apply, contact Alumnae Relations.

Alum Privilege Card

You need this card to use the Mount fitness centers or libraries. Login to AlumLine (web address above) and click on Alum Privilege Card on the left-hand navigation bar.

Questions?

Call Alumnae Relations at 213.477.2767.

A Place to Call Home

By Chinako Miyamoto

On move-in day during my freshman year of college at University of California, Irvine, the heat was almost unbearable, there were no elevators in the building, and I knew I would have to learn how to share a bathroom with seven other girls. I did not dare voice my doubt and fear as I moved into this new place and had to be independent for the first time in my life. As I hugged my parents good bye, I cried and begged them to take me home.

I have relayed this story to countless students and parents throughout my years working in residence life because as new college students, we all share a similar story. The ending to this story is that we all stick it out and get through our first few weeks of college relatively unscathed. We make new friends and attend study sessions late into the night, and the place we once called our "dorm room" becomes our "home."

When I was a sophomore in college, my academic advisor, a woman whose advice I trusted greatly, encouraged me to apply for a resident assistant (RA) position. I do not know what she saw in me, but her support gave me the courage to apply for this very important leadership position. I served as an RA during my junior and senior years in college—and have not left residence life since.

The support I received from my supervisors and peers was extraordinary, and the time that I spent with residents priceless. I remember once during my senior year when one of my residents came up to me and thanked me for a conversation we had the night before about a difficult situation she was facing at home. Her gratitude was completely unexpected, but it was then that I knew that I could make a difference in another person's life just by being me.

In residence life, we are called to serve, motivate, and teach our students in a meaningful way outside the classroom. We play a crucial role in the life of the College. We are the eyes and ears to the residents. We are the ones they call first.

During RA training each year, I try to impress upon the new staff that they will quickly find their own unique ways of interacting with residents and will come up with their own ideas on how to make the year a success. I want them to be curious, ask questions, imagine solutions, and be patient when things do not go as planned. Some of our most successful RAs have been the applicants who appear to be shy, but even in their reticence, their enthusiasm and positive energy shines through.

My mentor, Laura Crow, who is director of residence life, has taught me that we are all given a window of opportunity to teach and learn from students, and our responsibility is to guide them on to the next chapters of their lives. My hope is that in my time here, I can offer advice and make the residence halls an enjoyable and meaningful place to live. What I do each day here is not my job; it is my joy, and I hope to learn and grow along with my resident assistants and the residents during our time at the Mount. ⚜

Chinako Miyamoto is the assistant director of residence life at the Mount's Chalon Campus.

calendar

JOIN US...

on October 11, to celebrate Homecoming 2008. This year's event will include workshops, class reunions, Founders Day Mass, Gala Homecoming Dinner, and presentation of the 2008 Outstanding Alumnae Awards.

on December 13, to tour the historic Doheny Mansion. Tours are at 9, 9:45, 10:30, and 11:15 a.m. For more information, go to www.dohenymansion.org or call 213.477.2962. Tickets are $25 per person.

The following calendar represents only some of the events at Mount St. Mary's College. For more up-to-date listings, visit www.msmc.la.edu and click on "Calendars." For alumnae events, visit www.msmcalums.la.edu.

Ahmanson Weingart Hall, Doheny Campus

october

3 Alumnae Concert, Doheny Mansion, 310.954.4265
4 Richard Stolzman, clarinet, and Menahem Pressler, piano; Doheny Mansion; Da Camera Society; 213.477.2929; www.dacamera.org
4 Spiritual Directors Symposium, Doheny Spirituality Center, 213.747.6508
11 Homecoming 2008, Alumnae Relations, 213.477.2767

november

1 Paris Piano Trio, Doheny Mansion, Da Camera Society, 213.477.2929, www.dacamera.org

december

1 Application Deadline, Doctorate of Physical Therapy Program (Fall 2009), 213.477.2800
5 Christmas Choral Concert, Chalon Campus, 310.954.4265
6 Application Deadline, Weekend College (Spring 2009), 213.477.2866
13 Doheny Mansion Public Tours, 213.477.2767

1965

In the sixties, the Mount offered a two-year degree in secretarial science at the Doheny Campus. The program of study included a course in "Office Machines." Here, instructor Robert O'Rourke is helping students working on, from front to back, a dictation machine, a typewriter, and an adding machine.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

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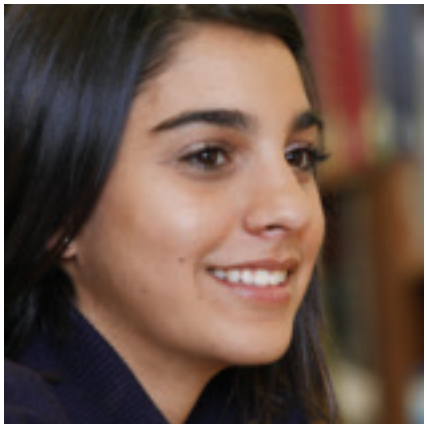

Students of Mount St. Mary's College